The Lions' Pride

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SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY • FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013 • VOLUME LII NO. 7 • SINCE 1965

Closed Until Further Notice

By Craig Graves and Renee Goodwin

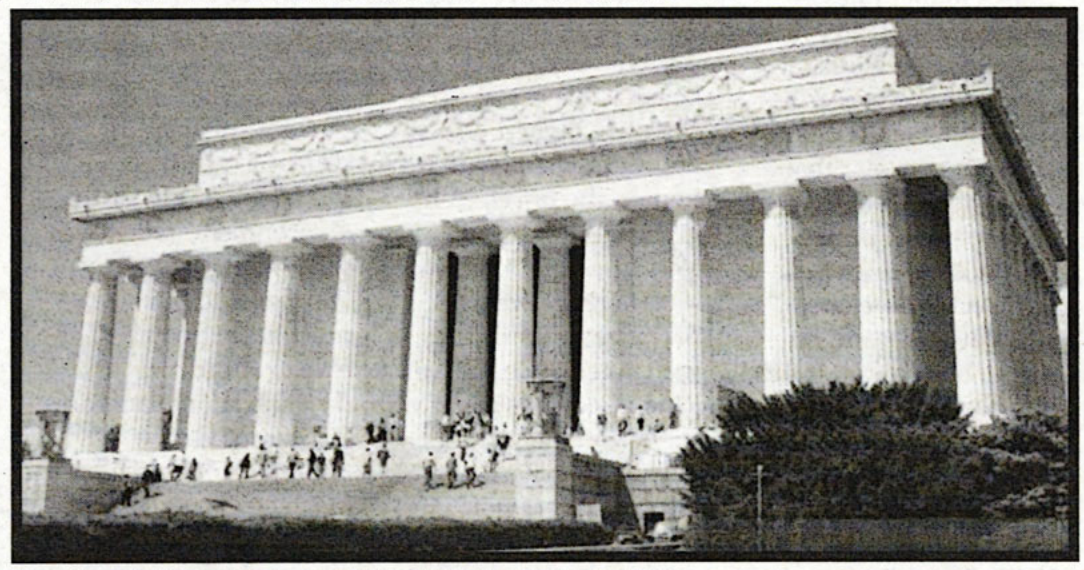
Contributing Writers

On Monday, Sept. 30, the United States government shutdown was enacted after heated debates in Congress about federal spending and the controversial Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, commonly called 'Obamacare.'

"The government closed in a political hissy-fight," said Senior Tommy Haines.

It might seem strange that the government would shut down towards the beginning of October, but the government runs on a fiscal year that lasts from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

This is not the first time the government has shut down. According to the Washington Post, the last time this happened, the government was closed for 21 days starting in December of 1995 and ending in January of 1996. In total, there have been 18 federal government shutdowns since 1976. There were eight shutdowns when Ronald Reagan was president,



The Lincoln Memorial is one of many government facitiles.

Photo taken from Wikicommons.

though the longest shutdown, during his Presidency, lasted only three days.

For some, this government shutdown doesn't mean anything. For others, this shutdown means furloughs and loss of pay for either them or someone they know. According to CNN, government employees and their families will feel the effects of the shutdown to the tune of 800,000 furloughed employees who are considered 'unessential.' CNN goes on to say that the mail will still be delivered, the military will remain fighting, and Social Security checks will still be paid. However, federal loans, gun permits, and passports will not be available until the government reopens. The 27th Amendment prevents Congress from altering their pay, and the President's salary is considered mandatory spending.

After all of this, who is to blame depends on whom one talks to.

"I figured [the government] would close," said Sophomore Katie DeMeritte. "[President] Obama isn't being flexible. I think there was a compromise, but from what I've heard, Democrats declined it."

"Basically, the Republicans didn't like Obamacare," said Haines. "Even though it passed, they didn't want to enact or fund it, so they closed the government. Regardless of if Obamacare is right or wrong, the fact that any party would sink so low as to close the government is highly disturbing."

Some people take neither side of the political debate.

"Both parties are to blame," said Senior Nick Lanier. "There was a lack of compromise and people [will] suffer for it."

During the days leading up to and following the federal shutdown of the government, various compromises were proposed by both parties and subsequently declined by the other party or the other chamber of Congress. Generally speaking, the Republican Party is against Obamacare, so much so that stopping government spending and closing the government was not out of the question. Obamacare has consistently been included in spending bills proposed in Congress. Republicans in the House of Representatives had proposed possible spending bills, but the Democrats in the Senate rejected them.

According to CNN, President Obama is reported to have said, "I'm happy to have negotiations. We can't do it with a gun held to the head of the American people."

It is unknown when the government will reopen. Many political analysts hope it is before the debt ceiling deadline passes on Oct. 17 when the federal government runs out of money to cover its nearly $17 trillion debt.

Further on Government Shutdown and Obamacare

The congressional debate over the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, commonly known as "Obamacare," came to a head on Oct. 1, 2013 when the federal government could not agree on a spending plan for the new fiscal year.

A CBS News poll released Thursday found that 72 percent of Americans disapproved of shutting down the federal government while 25 percent said they approved.

Respondents to the CBS poll were also asked who they would currently blame for the shutdown. 44 percent blame Republicans in Congress, and 35 percent blame Democrats and President Obama. A total of 17 percent attribute blame to both sides.

A total of 76 percent of CBS News poll respondents think the President and the Democrats should compromise and 21 percent think they shouldn't; 78 percent think the Republicans in Congress should compromise and 18 percent think they shouldn't.

A bipartisan conference committee was scheduled between the U.S. House and Senate to negotiate the changes to the spending bill.

Republicans demanded provisions to further "deter" or defund Obamacare when Democrats refused to accept anything less than the bill in its entirety, which resulted in a governmental deadlock.

The shutdown of the federal government began with the Republicans arguing that the passage of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act uninhibited will harm employers and impose new taxes on the American public and with the Democrats arguing the benefits of universal healthcare and covering the rising costs of coverage for all Americans.

Will this government shutdown have any effect on the implementation of Obamacare? The answer to this question is a decisive no, it will not. The majority of the funding for Obama care is in the form of new taxes and fees, as well as from cost cuts to other programs like Medicare and other types of funding that will continue despite the government shutdown.

The Argument between the Republican led House and the Democratic ruled Senate concerning Obamacare is unlikely to be one that can be easily made without concessions from one or both parties.

" I believe the idea of universal health care is something that needs to be explored further, but the way the federal government is going about it now is just another way for them to tax us even more," said Freshman Sarah Ellis.

" The lack of motivation and clear cut goals is the main reason for many of the troubles we currently find ourselves in, even in the presence of fierce determination and clear attainable goals the Government must present these proposed solutions first to the American people not just enforced." said Freshman Bobbi Ausmus

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Campus News

Running Dry On Fresh Water

By Kenna Dieffenwierth
Contributing Writer

Forty minutes of the documentary Running Dry was presented by Social Justice Across the Curriculum on Wednesday, Oct. 2 to inform students on the global water crisis.

This film began by making the point that most people don't realize how valuable our water is because humans assume that all the water will get recycled through the water cycle. In reality, 97 percent of the earths water is salt water. Only 3 percent is fresh water and most of this water is polluted.

Our water is polluted in many different ways. When water evaporated into the clouds, it is affected by air pollution caused by things like automobile exhaust and factories. Water in lakes and rivers is polluted by sewage, runoff, fertilizers, and various other waste sources.

Not only is the earth's small amount of fresh water being polluted, it is also being used up at an alarming pace. Ground water is being pumped 15 percent faster than it can be replenished. Thirty billion gallons of ground water are pumped every day. The pumping of ground water can lead to an increase in sinkholes. This also drains the earth of its moisture causing it to become more desert like.

Trees that hold the watershed in place are being cut down. This causes higher rates of erosion and greater amounts of water loss.

Diseases caused by unclean water kill more children in a year than malaria, aids, and war.

More and more people are living in cities. Cities are over-eloped with few trees and little dirt to hold water; instead you have a massive amount of pavement. Water runs off of the pavement bringing pollutants with it. Cities have to take water from the countryside to support their populations. This takes precious water from the area that grows the food. Industrialized society uses the most energy, the most water, and causes the most pollution.

Shipping water ruins ecosystems and depletes the locals' supply. Water can be shipped in varying forms like that of fruit, vegetables and meat. When water leaves a system, it is gone contributing to the desertification of the land. The trade system is not set up in a way that protects the water. It is not sustainable.

The United Nations has started to look at water as a good to be bought and traded rather than a natural right. Governments have been handing over water rights more frequently to big companies. Margaret Thatcher privatized Britain's water. France's water is privatized too.

One area in France had an efficient water system until the water went from being publicly owned to privately owned. When the water was privatized in France, the prices were higher and the quality was lower.

There are water privatization problems in the United States as well. When Georgia's water was privatized the workers who knew where to find the pipes were fired. The company's workers did not know where all the pipes were resulting in a neglected water system. Residents had to boil their water in order to clean it so that it would be safe enough to drink.

If things continue the way they are, all water is at risk of becoming privatized. There is a lot of corruption in the world's government. Public water is usually cheaper than privatized water, but big companies buy out politicians. Bribes are often used to get extra water rights.

One person interviewed in the documentary claimed that Coca-Cola ruled Mexico during the presidency of Vincente Fox. He issued Coca-Cola the greatest number of water concessions out of all the companies. Whoever controls the water, holds the power.

In Africa, Coca-Cola is one of the only providers of purified water. They charge more for a bottle of Dasani water than they charge for a bottle of Coca-Cola.

There is a way to desalinize salt water to make it suitable for drinking, but it is damaging to the environment, reliant on fossil fuels and very expensive to build. The most likely people to be able to afford desalinization plants are big companies.

Big companies aren't just taking over all of the water contracts, they are also buying up springs, wetlands, rivers and lakes. The Great Lakes are an example of fresh water being sold by the government and bought up by private companies. State governments sell water for economic benefits without really considering the long term effects.

Fresh water is the hottest asset on the market. Some people in the documentary even compared it to oil. Bottled water is no better than tap water.

If things do not change, the world's water supply is predicted to collapse in the next 50 years.

The ending message was to ask questions. Why give water to others so that they can bottle it and sell it back to us? What water table do you live in? Simple questions that will help raise awareness to the water crisis.

The documentary was followed by a discussion lead by Dr. Ian Rottenberg.

"I was very excited to see how many students came out to learn about an important social justice issue," said Dr. Ian Rottenberg, instructor of Philosophy.

Some people even proposed ways to solve some of the problems like Professor Woodard.

"We can sit around and talk about the water crisis for years or we can stop being sissies and invade Canada tomorrow. I think we can take them!" said Woodard.

Students were also shocked by the documentary and the serious state of the world's water supply.

"It was very eye opening. There were so many things I learned that I didn't know about water. Like the scarcity of water and how quickly we are using it up, and how it is being exploited," said senior Jocelyne Hilary.

"I thought it was a great engagement of the student body to inform them of the global water crisis.The information will serve the student community greatly as they hopefully intake the dialogue of responsible water practices and stewardship of our local watersheds," said senior Austin Lannon.

THE LIONS' PRIDE

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Campus News

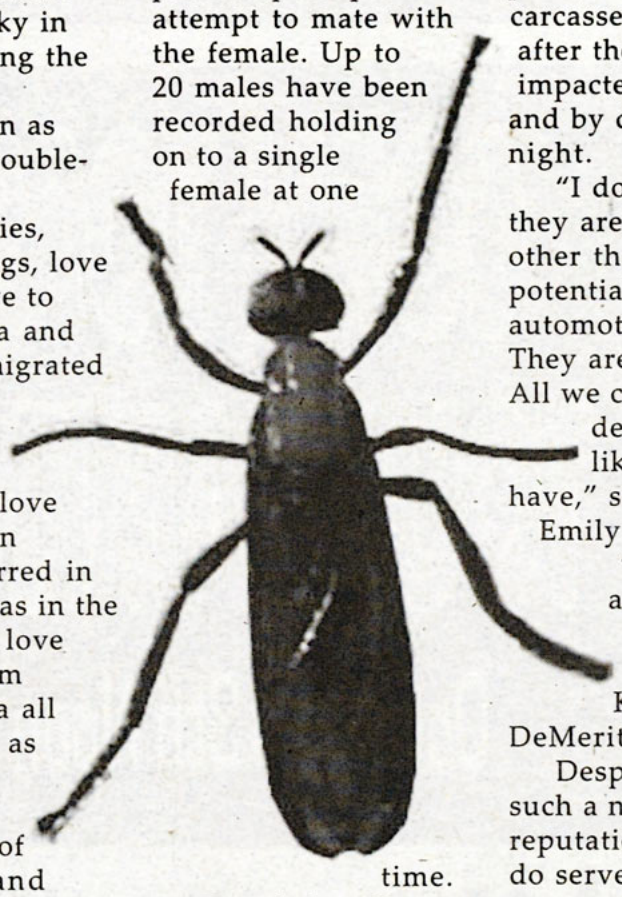
The Bugs That Bug You

By Stephanie Holz and Marlene Camacho
Staff Writers

It's that time of year again.

Love bugs have taken to the sky in hopes of finding the perfect mate.

Also known as March flies, double-headed bugs, honeymoon flies, and united bugs, love bugs are native to South America and have slowly migrated north to the United States. The first reported love bug sighting in America occurred in Galveston Texas in the 1940's. Today, love bugs span from South America all the way as far as South Carolina.



A relative of mosquitos and gnats, the tiny black and red flies are harmless as they do not bite or sting, cause disease, nor cause toxicity. They do, however, pose a bit of a problem to motorists as their acidic bodies can damage paint if not removed quickly. In addition, a multitude of carcasses from driving through swarms can clog a vehicle's vents and grill, potentially leading to overheating.

Mating seasons usually occur around May and September. During these periods, love bugs swarm the skies between the hours of 10 a.m. and dusk, with the males near the top of the swarm, darting down to connect with a nearly grounded female. Swarms can be as high as 20 feet off of the ground, though the densest areas are between one and five feet above ground.

"Love bugs love to make love in the air," said Dr. Michael Wilder, an ecology professor at the University.

Occasionally, a male love bug will grab onto an already paired up couple in attempt to mate with the female. Up to 20 males have been recorded holding on to a single female at one time.

Female love bugs venture from mating, many still carrying the carcass of their deceased mate, as they proceed to lay up to 300 eggs in moist soil. These eggs hatch after approximately 20 days and reach adulthood seven to nine days after hatching.

So, why don't we see love bugs year round? The answer is simple. Love bugs begin life as maggot-like creatures, feeding on decomposing organic matter. After a while, the larva undergo metamorphosis and resemble the common winged insect many are accustomed to viewing. As adults, male love bugs are around ¼ of an inch in length and live for approximately 92 hours; while females are around 1/3 of an inch in length and live for around 72 hours.

There are ways of protecting motor vehicles from love bug damage: including purchasing a mesh love bug shield for the grill of the vehicle, applying petroleum jelly to the front bumper so carcasses are less likely to adhere to the paint, washing carcasses off quickly after they have impacted the vehicle, and by driving at night.

"I don't believe they are destructive other than the potential for automotive damage. They are a nuisance. All we can do is just deal with them like we always have," said Jumior Emily Sheputis.

"They are annoying and gross!" said Sophomore Katie DeMeritte.

Despite having such a negative reputation, love bugs do serve an important purpose by eating nectar and pollinating plants during adulthood as they drift slowly through the air.

Love Bug Myth Buster! Their True Origins

By Stephanie Holz and Marlene Camacho
Staff Writers

The first thing many of us noticed after being at the University for a few days was the annoying love bugs. A lot of people (including me) had never seen these type of bugs. We all wondered: What are these things? What are they called? Why are they stuck together? WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

The question of the origin of love bugs has become a hot topic. There are many myths that aren't true about these pesky little bugs so let's set things straight once and for all.

After hearing the most common belief of the origin of the love bugs I was shocked.

I thought: "Why did they need to create these bugs, as if they don't already have Gatorade (hint hint) entitled to them?"

I was doubtful that the ones being given the credit of the creation of the love bugs were responsible, so I did some research of my own and found some interesting facts...

MYTH: Love bugs are the product of an experiment gone wrong at the University of Florida, which was an attempt to create a new species that would serve as a method of controlling the mosquito population.

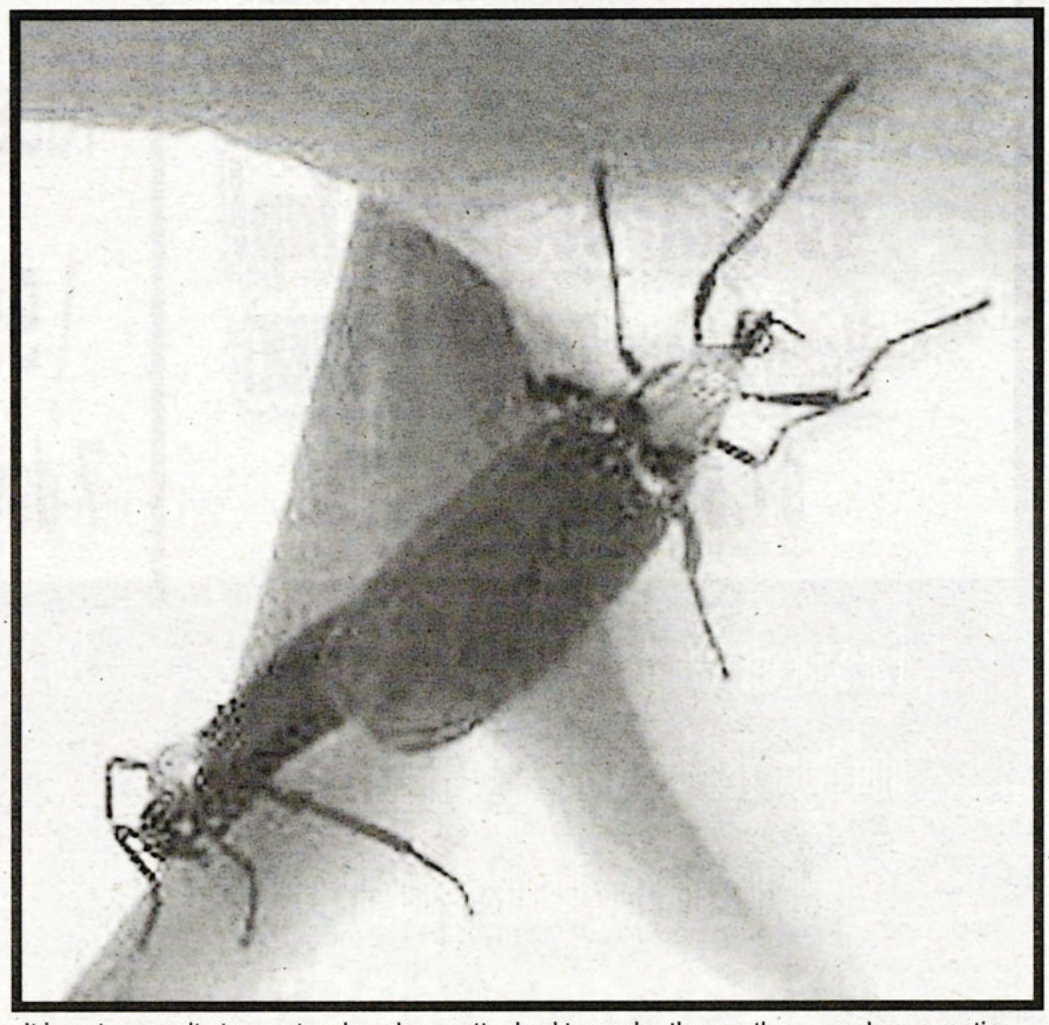
FACT: The University of Florida DID NOT fabricate the bugs.

"If we'd created them, they would be orange and blue," said Philip Koehler, Professor at UF's entomology center, to the Orlando Sentinel.

Love bugs actually come from Central America and it is believed they were introduced to the states by ship. As to where the myths came from, that will forever be a mystery.

MYTH: Since love bugs can damage a car's paint job (true), applying cooking spray to your car will prevent the bugs from getting stuck on your car.

FACT: Cooking spray will cause even more damage to your car; so the next time you have love bugs stuck to your car, simply give it a good wash.



It is not a novelty to see two love bugs attached to each other as they are always mating.

Photos taken by Marlene Camacho

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Halloween

Paper Mache Masks: No Balloons Required (Or Glue)

By Wendy Legorete
Distribution Manager

For those of you who don't know me, I'm just going to come right out and say it: I do not like balloons–At all. Why? Simple—because they pop. Keeping that in mind, I used to loathe making paper Mache masks at elementary school for the reason that (surprise, surprise) the teachers would always have us use balloons because of the limited amount of time in the class period. Well, lucky for others like me with a distaste for loud sudden noises, there's an alternative method which allows you to get the product without the need for popping things. I'm also fond of this method because you don't have to use manufactured glue:

For a Glue-like Substance: Use half of a cup of flour and mix with one cup of water; this will provide the same results as using the traditional store-bought glue, but at a cheaper price.

However, there is a drawback. When not using the flour-water mixture, it must be refrigerated. If you leave it out for hours or days on end, it will spoil, leaving a not-so-pleasant smell in your nostrils. The mixture will keep at a cold temperature for a little more than four weeks.

Balloon-less Paper Mache Masks (Base):

1. Rip a good quantity of pages of newspaper (or magazine pages, if you don't have any) into nice long strips of paper. (Note: If you're using magazine pages, you'll have to soak each strip a few seconds longer in the flour-water solution). Set aside.

2. Tie back your hair and coat your entire face (hairline, eyebrows, and upper lip included) with lotion. This is crucial to prevent dried flour from sticking to the skin and hair. The lotion will make it a lot easier to peel away the mask base, and this way it won't hurt.

3. Start soaking your first strip in the flour-water mixture, sliding it between your fingers to remove excess. You also might want to have a mirror handy (or a volunteer) because this is where you'll begin layering the strips on your face.

4. Now, you don't really have to be picky about how you layer the strips, but this way will make it more durable. Follow these steps:

- Place three wide strips along the forehead, jawline and the bridge of the nose.
- Place another wide strip above the first forehead strip.
- Lay a long strip over the strip on the nose.
- Place two short, wide strips vertically on either side of the lips.
- Lay an additional long, wide strip over the nose.
- Place a long, wide strip over the chin, covering the bottoms of the two pieces on either side of the lips.
- Cover the bridge of the nose and place additional strips about the face.
- Place a long, wide strip vertically to cover the forehead and bridge of the nose.
- Use your fingertips to smooth and press the edges of the strip down to form around the nose.
- Place an additional wide strip across the forehead to secure the vertical strip you had already lain on the nose.

The Pumpkin King!

Photo from wikicommons

- Place vertical strips along the temples and cheeks.

5. Now you can place strips wherever they are needed. There's no need to be concerned about how the looks as of now–You can cut wider holes where need be after the mask dries.

6. Let your mask dry on your face for a period of six to eight hours (take this project day as a day to lounge around the house, do your homework, etc.). That may seem like a long time considering that it will feel dry after an hour or so, but it needs to stay on for a lot longer to make a hard case. To remove the mask, simply peel it off your face gently. If you've used enough lotion it should come off very easily, and if you happen to tear some of it in the process of removal, that's alright—you can repair the rips with more strips of soaked paper.

7. After the base is dry, you can place a final layer of very large strips to create a smooth look for the finished mask, add on features for texture or cut designs into it, and if you want to paint it be sure to use acrylic.

Grub Garnish!

By Wendy Legorete
Distribution Manager

Is it too early to get a start on celebrating Halloween? Of course not—It's Fall, is it not? So for all you costume-sporting, sweet-savoring, party-pranking, house-haunting, eccentric-enthusiastic, ghosts and ghouls out there, here's a little graveyard-inspired treat just for you:

Grub Garnish Ingredients:

1 navel orange (or whatever orange fits your preference)

½ cup of granulated sugar

½ cup cold water

Optional for quirkiness:

¼ cup melted chocolate for decorating

1. Alright, so what you're going to want to do is wash your orange thoroughly to remove any pesticides that might have ended up on there during the growing season.

Rinse and dry. Cut your orange into fourths and remove the peel as gently as possible to prevent tearing. Set the peels on a cutting board. (Do not throw away the fruit; that's wasteful. Save it and eat it for later). Slice the peels into long, thin strips (about ¼ to ¾ of an inch should be fine). Set aside.

2. Boil about a cup of water at medium-high heat in a small pot. Add the orange peels

and cook for one minute. Strain with a colander and rinse with cold water. Repeat this process about three times; this will weaken the structural integrity of the peels enough to where they are easy to chew. Set peels aside.

3. Bring the ½ cup of cold water to a boil, bring down the heat to medium-low and add the ½ cup of sugar, stirring constantly until sugar is completely dissolved. Add the peels and reduce the heat to a simmer. Cook the peels for about 15 minutes.

4. Using tongs, remove the peels from the pot and place on a sheet of parchment paper (or wax paper) to let cool and dry. Note: If you don't have tongs you can strain the peels in a colander.

5. (Optional, but fun to do) While the peels are drying, melt the ¼ cup of chocolate (I like to use super-dark chocolate) in a microwave-safe bowl for about 10 to 15 seconds. Take out the bowl and stir until smooth. Making sure the chocolate is not too hot to handle, spoon the melted chocolate into a re-sealable plastic bag. Snip a small tip of the corner off the bag; this will make a homemade frosting bag. Twist the top of the bag until the melted chocolate comes oozing out of the snipped-off tip. Now you can decorate your grubs! You can make two dots for eyes or go all out by adding horizontal lines to make squirmy-looking body.

Variation: If you have one of those seedless oranges, you can use the segments (without cooking them or anything) as a juicier kind of grub, in which case, the peels become "wriggly worms".

You can now eat your grubs as they are or use them to garnish any Halloween-themed dessert plate or you can stick them in a frightening fruity beverage.

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Arts & Entertainment

WELCOME TO NIGHT VALE

By Ashley Reynolds
Entertainment Editor

"There is a thin, semantic line between weird and beautiful. And that line is covered with jellyfish."

Welcome to Night Vale is a podcast presented in the form of a radio show for the fictional desert town of Night Vale, where the weird is normal and the normal is strange.

Narrated by Cecil, the show's host, the show features inexplicable, terrifying and sometimes hilarious paranormal events.

The show has been described as "the X-Files meets the Onion meets H.P. Lovecraft."

In many ways, Welcome to Night Vale makes fun of the sci-fi genre it is a part of by warping the strange into something completely ridiculous. For example, when the citizens of Night Vale discover a five-headed dragon in their midst, the not-so-secret secret police try arrest him for speeding and insurance fraud.

This isn't unusual for Night Vale either; when a mysterious glowing cloud descends upon the town, it literally starts raining small animals. Citizens are encouraged to go about their daily business, carrying a "good strong umbrella capable of handling falling animals up to, say, ten pounds."

While at first glance Welcome to Night Vale may seem to be sheer ridiculousness, it actually is strangely profound. One moment Cecil is commenting on the floating cat in the men's restroom, the next he is commenting on the nature of existence: "Wish it wasn't trapped in a hovering prison in the men's bathroom, but listen: no pet is perfect. It becomes perfect when you learn to accept it for what it is."

Art by Sophie Taylor-Binard. Photo Courtesy of Night Vale T-Shirt Contest

These profound quotes characterize the show. The deepest moments can be found in the midst of the strange and mundane: "We understand the lights. We understand the lights above the Arby's. We understand so much. But the sky behind those lights — mostly void, partially stars? That sky reminds us we don't understand even more."

Part of the comedy of the show is how so many strange events happen in Night Vale, but the citizens just accept it as part of daily life. Carlos (also known as Perfect, Beautiful Carlos and Carlos with the Perfect Hair) is the only outsider in Night Vale, and is thus the only one able to see how bizarre the town is.

It turns out that clocks in Night Vale are not real. Every single one is hollow inside with a gelatinous grey lump with hair and teeth. No one except Carlos has seemed to notice.

Surprisingly, Welcome to Night Vale also engages in satire of current social and government structures. The town of Night Vale is run by a dystopian, severely dictatorial society with strict censorship. The government is terrifying, but also incredibly laughable. They'll arrest you for voting for the wrong candidate, but the resulting jail cell has HBO and cable television. They create a waterside area to Night Vale, which would be wonderful were it not for the fact that Night Vale is literally in the middle of a desert. These episodes subtly mock the power of government and blindly following the laws unfairly put in place.

So what has made Welcome to Night Vale such a hit with the Internet? Perhaps it is the floating cat, or the two-headed high school football star, or maybe it is the invisible, non-existent angels in Old Woman Josie's house. Whatever it is, the Internet absolutely loves quotes from the podcast.

"May you find love," one of the most popular quotes goes. "May you find-wherever it's been hidden. May you find who has been hiding it, and exact revenge upon them."

One thing is for sure: Welcome to Night Vale engages and captures the imagination of its listeners. Fan interpretations of what the characters look like are widely varied. Depictions of Cecil are the most varied. Fans draw him as white, Native American, purple, with third eyes or tentacles or pointed teeth. Some imagine he's the spirit of the radio station and has no mortal form; others see him as a small, bookish man in a sweater vest and a tie.

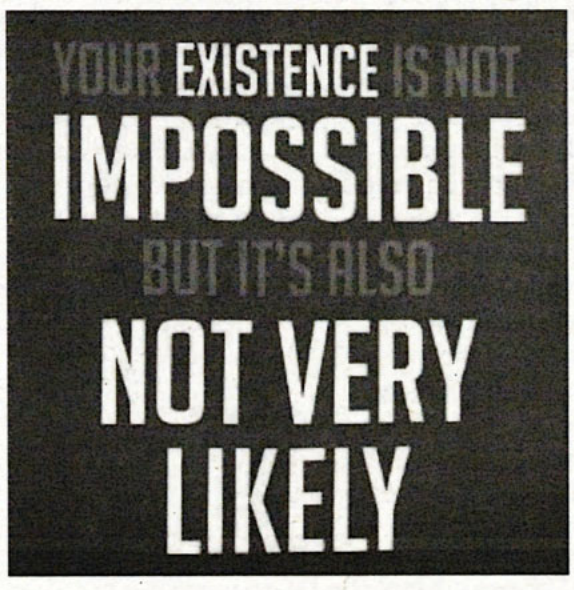
Part of what makes the Night Vale fandom so unique and captivating is its ability to create and imagine characters that are traditionally underrepresented in the media. Fans often portray Carlos as asexual or transgender or of mixed race. This is part of what makes Night Vale so popular; no interpretation is wrong so fans can imagine the characters as they see fit. In this way, fans create the world of the show as much as the writers. Characters do not have to follow the laws of time and space, much less societal conventions.

The Night Vale twitter is also fascinatingly bizarre. "You have nice skin. It really holds in all your blood and organs-no leaking or nothing. You look great," says one tweet.

"The universe is vast. You are also vast. So is an ant. There are different sizes of infinity," says another.

Welcome to Night Vale is created and directed by Joseph Fink and Jeffrey Cranor. It is available for free on iTunes, Stitcher, Libsyn, Feedburner, and Soundcloud.

When you are alone, just remember: "The past is gone, and cannot harm you anymore. And while the future is fast coming for you, it always flinches first, and settles in as the gentle present."



Picture above and Top Banner Courtesy of Night Vale Official Website

Arts & Entertainment

Jerzy Jung Visits Saint Leo

By Sabia Simms
Contributing Writer

Jerzy Jung, a laid back singer and writer, performed in the SCC Lobby October 2, 2013, before a small crowd.

Jung had a bubbly and entertaining personality with a voice to back it up.

She first started to sing at the age of 3, and then at age 13 Jung truly found her voice at a slumber party while taking turns singing with head phones.

Jung wrote poems and short stories while growing up, but it was not until she was 19 years old that she started to actually write music.

When talking to her about her music she excitedly said "I love it." It was moving to see how enthusiastic she was about her art.

As she started to play her first song, Hate These Girls, it was obvious that she had talent. Her voice was amazing because it grabbed the audience's attention easily, and the audience could seemingly feel the words.

"I thought her music was really relaxing and it gives off a really good vibe," said Freshman Anthony Valentine.

Her songs had meaning that girls in college could relate to. She sang not only her own songs, but also songs that the crowd knew, and she even did a duet.

She sang Sunday Morning by Maroon 5 with Sophomore Jamie, and they harmonized perfectly together.

It was clear that all she wanted to do was have fun and express herself through music.

Jung is very dedicated to her art, and she came to Saint Leo all the way from New York to perform.

"I had to play in New York last night and I only got 3 hours of sleep and had to take a six hour flight to get here and I was like Whoahhhhh!!!!!" said Jung.

That is dedication.

"I just rocked too hard", she said as her papers fell off the key board.

Her music has been use used in a Swedish commercial and she made it to the Swedish iTunes charts.

Jerzy Jung performing at the University

Photo Courtesy of Sabia Simms

Her music was enjoyable to listen to, and hopefully Saint Leo will see her on her next tour.

The Family: Goodfellas With Girls Too

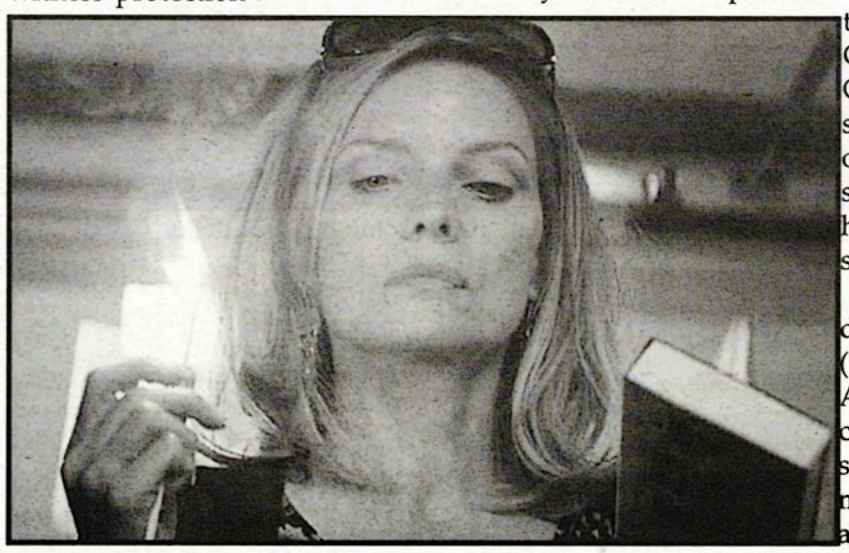
By Annie Hays
Staff Writer

The Family never has a dull moment. It makes audiences laugh hysterically at people getting beat half to death with tennis rackets and baseball bats, convenience stores getting blown up, and, of course, the "f" word.

The film begins with the Maznoni family, now the Blakes, relocating to Normandy, France. They are in the witness protection program because the father, Giovanni Maznoni (Robert Di Niro), is an ex-mobster snitched on the powerful Don Luchese (Stan Carp) six years ago.

After the initial move-in, each member of the family deals with life in the small town in their own way. Giovanni finds a typewriter and decides to write his autobiography, but he tells neighbors that he is writing a book about the Normandy Invasions. When he is not writing, Giovanni is busy sneaking out against the wishes of Agent Stansfield (Tommy Lee Jones) the FBI agent in charge of him. When brown water keeps coming out of his faucet he beats up anyone in his path to getting the problem resolved.

The mother, Maggie (Michelle Pfeiffer), blows up a convenience store because the people there insult her. She also spends a lot of time at the local Catholic Church until she is kicked out for being such a horrible sinner.



Michelle Pfeiffer as Maggie

Photo Courtesy of The Family Official Facebook

The daughter, Belle (Dianna Agron), gets a crush on the substitute math teacher at her high school. She has him tutor her so she can flirt with him. She also uses a tennis racket to beat up a boy who tries to use her in a park one day after school and beats up a girl who steals her pencil case.

The son, Warren (John D'Leo), creates his own Mafia at school by bribing or beating up all the important people in the school including the nerd, the captain of the Rugby team, and the girl in charge of illegally selling cigarettes. Then they all beat up the bullies that attacked Warren on the first day of school.

Everything seems to be normal for the family until Don Luchese gets a hold of a newspaper article that Warren wrote with a reference to the Don. Thus the stage is set for an epic showdown between the family, with the help of the FBI, and the mobsters.

For those who like sadistic humor and exploring the many meanings of the "f" word, The Family is a must see. Naturally Goodfellas is brought up in this movie, and the similarities in the humor of these two movies are blatantly obvious.

However, people who do not find blood and guts humorous should avoid this movie.

The explosions in the movie are standard Hollywood explosions, but they were the only special effects in the movie. The lighting was also pretty standard. The movie's focus is the humor of the family, so the special effects and lighting were present but not distracting.

The Family fully uses the comedic abilities of its all-star cast, but with a main focus on Robert Di Niro's past acting in mob movies. Those who can look past the gore and cursing will laugh the whole 111 minutes.

Sports

Athletes Against Average Students

By Michael Walker
Contributing Writer

Every now and then, we get reminded of someone who excels in a game or of a person who has the highest test grade. But how do you decide who deserves more of a scholarship?

Full ride athletes get paid to go to whatever school, get whatever grade and get away with whatever trouble they cause. They then graduate with a probability of making tons of money. On the other hand, normal students can usually only obtain smaller scholarships. Your average students have to work multiple jobs to pay off loans or even just to make bare minimum to stay in school. Sometimes they have to limit certain activities such as eating and sleeping to still maintain an adequate grade point average.

The real question is who is more deserving of scholarships? First, we can look at the situation from an average student's point of view. A scholar's main focus is primarily on school followed by outside activities like relationships, Greek life, or a job. They study for exams, meet deadlines and try to be the best student they can. Even meeting the highest scholarly credentials, students can only obtain a certain amount of scholarship from the school.

Here at Saint Leo University, scholarly students can only receive a maximum of $5,000 as a traditional student or $3,500 as a transfer student. Students need to find other means to maximize their financial package so they do not end up accumulating an overwhelming amount of debt to pay off after college. To lower the amount an average student pays they may have to get a smaller meal plan, live in uncomfortable housing or even limit their social life and skip out on activities. However, athletes can receive full rides and never have to pay a single penny for tuition, food, or any other activity that students do.

Many athletes get additional benefits aside from not leaving college with debt. Athletes receive excuses from classes, free food and the ability to travel. Some would say that athletes get the better end of the stick when it comes to whom the school truly cares for. Is this the truth? In most cases yes. Schools use athletes to advertise the University or College to attract potential students. This essentially will make the school more profit.

Even though athletes leave college debt free they still have many issues that they face. Athletes have a shorter summer/winter, have limited amount of time to study for courses, have to pay for training trips, and might have to give up a social life to be able to sleep. Also, coaches can be very hurtful and cause stress leading to other issues.

In my opinion, athletes do end up being better off during and after college. If athletes learn time management, they can get everything done with high grade point averages but at the end of the day they are still receiving a free education. As a student, I will end up owing money from student loans.

College is meant to give students a stronger future. College to leaves the average student with debt that will take a long time to pay off; however, athletes give up their time that could be used to study more for practice and sleep recovery. But many average students work multiple jobs that are time consuming to try and pay off their expenses for living and school.

Universities should consider revising a system so that those that are overly proficient academically receive the same benefits as a full ride athlete.

University Athletics

2013 Women's Volleyball results

Rollins at. Saint Leo
@ Saint Leo, Fla. (The Bowman Center)
10/5/2013 at 4:00pm
Rollins 0
Saint Leo 3
Final 1 2 3 Score
Rollins (12-4, 2-2 SSC) 12 21 24 0
Saint Leo (11-5, 1-2 SSC) 25 25 26 3
As a team, Saint Leo hit for .360, collecting 54 kills and 60 digs. The visiting Tars notched just 31 kills in the loss

Sep 2013 Women's Soccer Results

Overall Pct. Conf. Pct. Streak Home Away Neutral
5-3 .625 0-0 .000 Won 2 3-0 2-3 0-0

Sat 28 Eckerd Leukemia Awareness Night W, 5-0
October
Wed 2 Nova Southeastern W, 4-3 Final
Kabangu post another hat trick against Eckerd, this is twice in the past two matches she has accomplished this accomplishment.

Men's Golf results

Sep 30, 2013 vs. Cougar Invitational @ Columbus, Ga. Rounds 1 & 2 13th
Host: Columbus State
T13 St. Leo 303 296 599

T26 Joey Savoie (3) 75 70 145
T43 Austin Grey (1) 75 75 150
T43 Trevor Joseph (2) 75 75 150
T64 Casey Bannon (4) 78 76 154
85 Phil Horowicz (5) 78 86 164

Oct 1, 2013 vs. Cougar Invitational @ Columbus, Ga. Round 3 15th
15 St. Leo 303 296 303 902
T25 Joey Savoie (3) 75 70 75 220
T40 Trevor Joseph (2) 75 75 73 223
T55 Austin Grey (1) 75 75 78 228
T65 Casey Bannon (4) 78 76 77 231
86 Phil Horowicz (5) 78 86 83 247
Host: Columbus State
Next up for the guys team will be on Oct 7-8, 2013 vs. Guy Harvey Invitational @ West Palm Beach, Fla. Rounds 1 & 2